

# progressionINcorrections

MAR/APR 2006, Volume 3

Indiana Department of Correction Employee Newsletter

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## From the Commissioner...

Welcome to the third edition of **progressionINcorrections!**

I would like to congratulate all employees for making 2005 a successful year. Together, we accomplished a lot. The year was filled with opportunities, changes and sometimes challenges and everyone did a great job of supporting initiatives, implementing programs, creating new partnerships, while promoting the basics of public safety.

This year, we will focus on best practices – “Improve it, and Do It.” The groundwork and research we did last year has allowed us to start this year off by focusing on the basics of corrections. We will be able to track and measure our progress – our successes and our failures.

If we continue to provide innovative and progressive solutions in corrections, together, we can be the national model. The opportunities are endless, and I challenge everyone to identify better ways of providing correctional programming and operational services.

In 2005-06, notable ideas were introduced and implemented by department staff which have improved the operations, efficiencies and safety:

- **Hotline:** A new offender “Hot line” has been activated at all juvenile facilities. This “Hot line” offers inmates a direct line of communication to Internal Affairs Investigators at Central Office by merely dialing #22 on their offender payphones. A video has been distributed to juveniles instruction how to use this Hot Line, and signs have

been installed for that purpose, in English and Spanish.

- **Standing Mainline:** This entails all facility executives and Department heads to adjust their schedules so that they can be present during meal times to meet with offenders as they assemble. This informal communication has helped resolve issues informally, and provides key staff with important information.
- **Faith and Character-Based Units:** In 9 months, with 900 volunteers, 9 faith and character based units have been in operation at the Department of Correction! Along with the CIF and IWP units, additional units were started at Branchville Correctional Facility, Westville Correctional Facility, Wabash Valley Correctional Facility, Pendleton Correctional Facility, Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility, Miami Correctional Facility, Indianapolis Juvenile Correctional Facility, Indiana Women's Prison and Correctional Industrial Facility.

- **Standardized Performance Based Measurement:** Indiana will be the seventh state to participate in a “Standardized Performance Based Measurement” system designed to standardize definitions used to produce and share data on various key indicators relating to the business of corrections. This will allow the



J. David Donahue

story continued on page 3

## Keeping Indiana Clean



On Wednesday, March 8, the Department of Correction kicked off its spring clean-up efforts to promote an on-going commitment of keeping Indiana's landscape clean and to provide offenders a continued opportunity to provide a valuable service to the community. By April 13, 1,868 offenders focused on removing 16,554 bags of trash from local highways, byways and other community areas. ■

## IDOC Bats 1000 During 2006 Legislative Session

All four legislative initiatives supported by the Department passed through the General Assembly.

- Senate Bill 332 Department of Correction pension benefits
  - Establish Hazardous Duty benefits for correctional employees.
  - Passed the Senate (50-0) and House of Representatives (90-0) floors unanimously.
  - Signed into law by the Governor.
- Senate Bill 12 DOC administration of sex offender registry
  - Requires DOC to administer the sex offender registry.
  - Passed on the Senate (50-0) and House of Representatives (94-0) floors unanimously.
  - Signed into law by the Governor.
- Senate Bill 247 Various Homeland Security matters
  - Passed on the Senate (47-1) and House of Representatives (84-6).
  - Allows DOC to inspect incoming and

outgoing correspondence from or to offenders.

- Signed into law by the Governor.
- Senate Bill 160 Witnesses at an execution
  - Allows family members of victims the right to view the execution of a condemned offender.
  - Passed on the Senate (38-11) and House of Representatives (82-12).
  - Signed into law by the Governor. ■



### The Mission of the Department of Correction

The mission of the Indiana Department of Correction is to maintain public safety and provide offenders with self improvement programs, job skills and family values in an efficient and cost effective manner for a successful return to the community as law-abiding citizens.

## progressionINcorrections

We welcome all submissions -

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### From the Commissioner... – story continued from page 1

Department to clearly evaluate how it functions, and allow better comparison with other jurisdictions around the country. This could set the standard for how correctional systems are measured nationally.

- **Sex Offender Registry:** Launched the new Sex Offender Registry. Worked with the Indiana Sheriffs Association, Indiana Criminal Justice Institute and the Attorney General's Office. The Department is taking a lead in supervising the development of a new process that unites the sex offender registry and directory into a single web-based tracking system for the citizens of Indiana to use to accurately identify where sex offenders live, work, and go to school.
- **New Offender Grievance System:** The new offender grievance system was developed and implemented December 2005. This new process is much more streamlined, makes greater use of early informal resolution of offender grievances, and includes a web-based computer tracking system accessible to all facilities.
- **Video Conferencing:** The Department expanded its use of video conferencing equipment to include all large adult facilities. This video-conferencing technology will remove much of the need for the parole board to travel to these facilities, allows participating courts to conduct hearings without expensive and risky offender transports to-and-from prison and the courts, allows for Department-wide meetings to be held without the need for staff to leave their facility, and provides other valuable services.

Legally speaking, we gained the support of the General Assembly which will impact the future of correctional employees:

- **Hazardous Duty Assignments:** The Department successfully proposed four changes in state law that will improve correctional services in Indiana. I am pleased to announce that the Department received unanimous support for a change in law that recognizes the fact that every facility employee who has offender contact, and those working in Parole or Emergency Response Operations all work in hazardous duty assignments. This new statutory designation opens the door for improved benefits for state corrections employees, and calls for a summer study committee to develop an expanded benefits plan to be recommended to the General Assembly next Session. This new designation currently affords death benefits, and free college tuition to surviving family members of staff who die in the line of duty.
- **Sex Offenders & Parole:** Another new law shifts the oversight of the sex offender registry from the Criminal Justice Institute to the Department of Correction. This new measure calls for sex offenders to register prior to release (current law allows them seven days after release), and mandates that sex offenders participate in treatment if offered by the Department. This Act also allows the Department to share information to community services providers that, in the past, required the offender's consent.
- **Offender Mail:** Following a request made by the U. S. Postal Inspector, a change was made to the Corrections Code that instructs the Department to change the way inmate correspondence is

handled. Specifically, the General Assembly amended the Code to put the Department in line with most other jurisdictions by authorizing staff to begin monitoring offender correspondence; just as it monitors offender telephone calls. This provision was part of a larger bill that addresses overall homeland security issues.

- **Witness to an Execution:** To make Indiana consistent with most other jurisdictions, the General Assembly amended the execution procedures so that members of murder victim(s) immediate family have a right to attend and witness the Department's carrying out of Court-ordered executions.

As an agency, we need to make sure that our processes and operational procedures are flawless. We have accomplished a lot of great things together and now we need to focus on the basics of corrections. We will continue our commitment to re-entry as our number one priority. I expect all staff members to be cognizant of the 4 C's: Commitment, Custody, Care and Corrections in your day-to-day jobs. I thank you for your diligence and look forward to your continued hard work and commitment. We are a first-class team dedicated to making a difference in the lives of people on the inside and protecting the people on the outside, everyday.

Please make sure you let me know what's on your mind – no idea is too small. I want to thank employees for using "*Ideas for Change*." I will continue my commitment to providing frequent communications and the Weekly Views. Now, let's "*Improve it and Do it!*" ■

The Indiana Department of Correction  
Annual Report for 2005 can be viewed at  
[http://www.in.gov/indcorrection/pdf/  
100days/currentbrief.pdf](http://www.in.gov/indcorrection/pdf/100days/currentbrief.pdf)



## Re-Entry Activities and News

**Julie von Arx**, Deputy Commissioner of Re-entry and Community Services

### Case Management/Unit Team

The process of creating and reviewing the Re-entry Accountability Plan has been well received by the majority of offenders who are actively participating in the process by asking good questions and completing the Offender Self-Assessment.

- The Adult Case Management System is operational. Staff has provided positive feedback and use will continue to grow as staff becomes familiar with the advantages of the system.
- The Department is in the early stages of discussions to expand the Department's re-entry web site to include a searchable community resource database for offenders, providers, staff and the general public.
- The Department has commenced creating re-entry videotapes for staff, offenders and the general public.
- The Department has commenced identifying re-entry indicators and data sources to begin evaluating our re-entry efforts. We intend to utilize the CPAI to evaluate our programs.

### Pre-Release Re-Entry Program

#### Work Release

**South Bend Work Release Center** changed its mission significantly in the later part of 2005. The Center previously provided both pre-work release programs as well as traditional work release services. Presently,

the Center focuses solely on work release and continues to provide a comprehensive substance abuse treatment program with particular focus on relapse prevention. Additionally, the Center voluntarily increased its capacity by 10% and now serves 100 work release offenders with an average daily population of 97. Recently, the facility began charging offenders a \$3.00 transportation fee to offset the transportation expenses resulting from multiple daily trips to work sites.

#### Parole Services

A parole agent liaison has been assigned to each adult correctional facility to serve as the initial point of contact for parole questions and concerns. These agents serve as the liaison between the facilities and the field until the offender is assigned a parole agent which occurs between 45-60 days prior to release. The liaisons are invited to attend Unit Management Team meetings to assist with handling significant parole issues.

Parole Services conducts Parolee Orientation at the facilities; a general informational session is held six months prior to the offender's release. A follow-up orientation is conducted 30-45 days prior to release to handle specific parole release, placement and conditions issues.

#### Inter-Agency Collaboration

The **Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles** has agreed to allow the Department to set up additional license branch kiosks in two more of our facilities to issue identification cards pre-release. We have also entered into discussions to add renewing driver's license processes to these branches. In the coming summer we intend to "centralize" the identification process; all identification cards for all offenders

will be processed at one location.

The Department has commenced a formal process with the **Indiana Family and Social Services Administration** to transition our common clients from incarceration into the community with timely access to food stamps, TANF, Medicaid, vocational rehabilitation services, etc.

The **Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority** agreed to match the Department's investment of \$250,000 to provide rental assistance to an estimated seventy (70) parolees who are in need of stable housing upon release and who meet program criteria. A request for proposals seeking a program administrator(s) will be issued soon.

The **Indiana State Department of Health** and the Department have finalized a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) permitting the Department to obtain birth certificates on behalf of both adult and juvenile offenders.

The MOU with the **Social Security Administration** for the acquisition of duplicate social security cards pre-release has been revised in accordance with new federal rules. Additionally, the Supplement Social Security (SSI) MOU, permitting the Department's offenders to apply for benefits pre-release, has been revised to include juvenile offenders. ■





## Pendleton Correctional Facility Bicycle Repair Program

A program has been initiated at this Facility to obtain used bicycles through donations for repair, restoration, and distribution to under-privileged children.

Correctional Officer Mike Vaughn, who has experience in this area, is overseeing the program, which has been initiated at the Facility's Cold Storage warehouse. Mr. Vaughn currently has two offenders from our minimum-security level one outside dormitory assigned to assist him.

At this time, thirty-three bicycles have been triaged resulting in ten bikes being restored and ready for distribution. Personnel from our Vocational Auto Body shop and our Farms Operation have assisted Mr. Vaughn by providing existing tools and equipment from those areas at cost savings to the State of \$1,350.00. Vocational Auto Body



Instructor Charles Stoner was able to use scrap metal to construct a bike stand and Farm employee Melvin Gay was instrumental in making a truing stand from scrap materials. PEN Products personnel donated four work station tables for the project and Personnel secretary Belinda Stamper is in the process of soliciting donations for this worthwhile project. It is possible at some point that this program will be expanded to include an additional worksite inside the walls. ■

## Toy Story



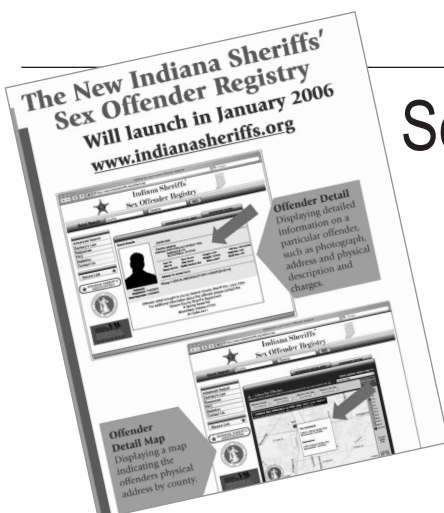
There is always something special about a child receiving a gift from a loved one.

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility offenders will get that chance, thanks to the Washington, Indiana Catholic School.

Students conduct community service projects twice each year to help those in need and recently decided to collect stuffed animals for WVC offenders to give to their children.

Community Services Director David Wence said Long Distance Dads and Read to Me Program participants will benefit from the effort. The Long Distance Dads program includes events throughout the year, such as a Fathers Day Picnic and Christmas party, where incarcerated dads will be able to give their children a cuddly bear or elephant. After an incarcerated dad records a story to be sent to his child, the tape, book and now stuffed animal will be included in the extra special "Read to Me" gift package.

The high school students say there is no danger of the facility running out of toys, as they are ready and willing to collect more to benefit the facility programs. ■



## Sex Offender Registry

Sex and Violent Offender Directory to provide the public with a single place to "shop" for accurate information on sex offenders. The new site, available at [www.indianasheriffs.org](http://www.indianasheriffs.org), provides enhanced search capabilities including the ability to locate offenders using GIS maps. Users can view maps that show offender location in relation to their home and work addresses, schools, daycares, and public parks.

There has been overwhelming interest and support in the new Registry since it was launched. Since January 23rd, there have been almost 300,000 unique visitors on the site. These visitors accounted for almost 12 million accessed pages and over 51 million hits. ■

On January 23, 2006, Governor Mitch Daniels along with the Indiana Department of Correction, the Indiana Sheriffs' Association, the Indiana State Police, the Attorney General's Office, and the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute launched a new Sex Offender Registry. The new Registry combined the Sheriffs' Sex Offender Registry with the Indiana

## Parole Update

In the last quarter Parole Services set goals to fill all SOMM (Sex Offender Management and Monitoring) specialized Parole Agent vacancies, developed a Parole Violation Matrix and Revised the Parole Services Procedural Manual. These goals were accomplished with help from a number of Parole staff and other Department of Correction staff from various areas. Along with the goals set at the beginning of the quarter, Parole Services joined our fellow juvenile parole team in the Indianapolis Youth Services Transition Office as they took over the supervision of nearly 300 adult offenders in Marion County. Along with the busy pace of Parole, the Terre Haute Parole District moved into a new office location shared with other community providers.

A Parole Violation Matrix was recognized as a need by Parole Administrative and Supervisory staff to provide consistency in the manner in which Parole Agents respond to violations, report violations and make recommendations for action to the Parole Board. Fort Wayne Parole District Supervisor Steve Kever and Assistant District Supervisor Dave Wuthrich took the lead in developing the Parole Violation Matrix. The matrix assigns a number to the standard and special conditions of Parole supervision. Serious violations and violations related to sex offenses are scored heavily. The total matrix score determines the appropriate action: the use of an intermediate sanction, a formal sanction at the Parole District level or a request for Parole Board action. A 30-day pilot testing of the matrix was conducted in the Ft. Wayne Parole District. The matrix was presented to the Parole Board, which responded positively to the matrix. The Parole Violation Matrix was presented to all Parole staff during a statewide training February 9, 2006. Complete implementation of

the Parole Violation Matrix followed immediately after the training.

The Parole Procedure Manual had not been significantly updated since 1998. Parole had experienced a number of changes in technology and operations since that time, which were not reflected in the procedure manual. Therefore, the huge task was undertaken to update the Parole Procedure Manual to reflect the changes and provide Parole staff with a new philosophy that focuses on progressive community supervision. Columbus Parole District Supervisor, Stacy Doane-Selmier took the lead in coordinating the effort to revise the procedure manual. February 7, 2006 the revised Parole Directive was presented to all Parole Staff during a two day statewide training. Parole Supervisors and Agents were very receptive to the training, provided positive feedback and supported the revised Parole Directive.

In February 2006, the Indianapolis Youth Services Transition Office took over the supervision of nearly 300 adult offenders previously assigned to the Indianapolis Adult Parole District. Due to the number of vacancies in adult Parole, the Youth Services Office graciously demonstrated their commitment to public safety, by taking on additional offenders for community supervision in Marion County. Juvenile Program Director Debbie Eccles took the lead in making the transition smooth.

The Terre Haute Parole Office moved to a new location February 6, 2006. The Parole office currently shares an office location operated by Vigo County Community Corrections. Other community service providers in the office location include; Vigo County Probation, Division 6 Court and a drug and alcohol treatment provider. ■

## Staff Appointments

Commissioner J. David Donahue has appointed the following individuals to serve as Superintendents:

Jan Davis appointed to Henryville Correctional Facility;

Alan Finnan appointed to Wabash Valley Correctional Facility;

Bill Wilson appointed to Westville Correctional Facility;

Terry Royal appointed to Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility;

and Steve McCauley appointed to Indianapolis Juvenile Correctional Facility.

Please extend your full cooperation to these new Superintendents. ■



**improve  
it and  
do it!**



## DOC Superstars

### Donna Brown

Mention “re-entry” to Donna Brown and a big smile crosses her face, a smile that can be heard in her voice. Transition/Re-entry Program Coordinator since 1998, Donna developed the Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) program under the vision and philosophy that reentry and reintegration needs to start at intake. “Whether he’s doing fifteen years or fifteen months, reentry should begin at the beginning,” Brown said. “Offenders should be evaluated, assessed, and a plan put in place to address the issues that led to incarceration in the first place.”

The Re-entry Program at CIF is a full-day, one-month program, currently presented at least a year from the earliest possible release date. Comprised of job search, family reintegration, stress, anger management, self-esteem, substance abuse, taxes, insurance & finance and health & wellness components, as well as community resources to support these healthy changes upon release, the Re-entry program is informative and daunting.

Donna’s professional philosophy makes it all come together. “I help them see how important it is that they get the knowledge we have to offer. I’ve seen offenders with little self-direction. I try to give them a realistic view of what to expect upon release. I let them know it’s not going to be easy. Probably the hardest thing they’ll ever do in their life. But, I motivate them to prove the figures wrong. I challenge them to get out and stay out.”

Certified in Offender Workforce Development through the National Institute of Corrections in 2002, Donna and the Indiana team of certified facilitators developed and presented

an offender workforce development program for the Indiana Department of Correction and other State agencies. Some of the terms and conditions of that program have been integrated into the official Re-entry Curriculum. As Donna points out, “Viable employment is so critical to decreasing recidivism.”

Brown’s seen her share of successes, too. One of her active programs, “Going Home,” started and operated by Reverend Shelia Williamson of CHOICES, has had thirty releases over the last year. Twenty-eight are success stories. Going Home consists of twice weekly mentoring sessions prior to release and a one year, ongoing tethering program upon release. Many of the concepts and accountability issues of Going Home are being replicated on a larger scale in Indiana Purposeful Living Units (PLUS) housing units.

In addition to an active full-time Re-entry program, Donna’s “department of one” is proactive with Community Transition Program (CTP) participation. Every offender eligible for a community transition program is interviewed and assisted in writing to the sentencing court about his relative interest in program participation. She maintains an active and up-to-date database of program particulars for all 86 counties with an active CTP.

She also serves as the facility Thinking for a Change coordinator and offers a voluntary CPR certification class for Re-entry graduates. With an undergraduate degree in Computer Information Systems, it’s no surprise that Donna also offers a MicroSoft Office self-tutorial where participants achieve mastery of Word, Access and Excel applications.

Since starting her DOC career in 1989, Donna has worn many hats. She has a background that includes the mailroom,

psychology department, business office, and classification. She’s been motivating, coaching, and teaching offenders since 1994. She enjoys leisure activities with her husband, two grown children and five grandsons. This DOC Super Star is a SuperNova for the Correctional Industrial Facility. ■

### Jillene Walker

On March 1, 2006, one of our CIF employees, Sandi Scroggins, began choking on a piece of food. She continued to choke until such time she turned red, stopped breathing, and was grasping her throat in the “universal sign” that she could not breathe. Thankfully one of our other Mail Room Employees, Jillene Walker, was present when this occurred and recognized (from her Life Saving Training that she had received at this Facility) that Sandi was in severe distress. Jillene then performed the actions necessary to dislodge the food from her throat, and Sandi began to breath.

Had it not been for Jillene’s concern for her fellow employee, and her ability to recognize the emergency and to carry out her training, this situation would have been much worse.

Jillene Walker, already an excellent employee, has gone beyond her required duties and saved a life. ■



## From the Administration Division

**Bruce Lemmon**, *Deputy Commissioner of Administration*

The Division of Technology Services has been working closely with the Indiana Office of Technology preparing for the centralization and consolidation of technology services in four core services areas: systems administration of centralized services, such as e-mail; support of desktop computers throughout state agencies, including remote servers and printers; network support services providing maintenance and administration of the state's physical network; and, customer services, such as a statewide one call help desk. It is anticipated that the consolidation process will be implemented in phases starting in the very near future.

The Division of Staff Development and Training has been assisting other Divisions and Facilities in the Department by providing training resources and services, including assisting the Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility with start-up training and providing "train-the-trainer" programs. Additionally, the Division has developed three new leadership training programs and has coordinated and/or conducted training in DNA Testing, the new Offender Grievance Process, Budget/Fiscal, "Thinking for a Change," and Security Threat Groups. The Division has established Regional Pre-service Academies in five locations to better serve the needs of the Department's facilities and staff.

Cost reductions, staff re-assignments, combining operations and expense control has led the PEN Products Division to the first two profitable months since June 2003. Additionally, while sales from July 2005 through

January 2006 have been below projected sales, over the last year sales from joint ventures, farms, commissary and printing have increased with printing sales currently 31.1% above last year's sales.

The Division of Human Resources has been working in conjunction with the State Personnel Department to streamline its operations in Central Office and has reduced staff from 11 persons to four. Additionally, the Division of Human Resources has been working with the State Personnel Department to regionalize the operation

of Human Resources throughout the Department which will result in five regions and will change the focus of Human Resources staff throughout the Department. The Commissioner has approved this plan and the process of converting to the regions will begin soon.

The Division of Construction Services has actively worked on establishing new inspection procedures for state-owned residences and other property in the Department. Additionally, numerous renovation projects are underway. ■

## Indiana Department of Correction Hosts Suicide Prevention Summit



Commissioner J. David Donahue hosted a suicide prevention summit in March; bringing together state and national experts to discuss best practices in suicide prevention in a correctional setting. The summit was conducted in partnership with FSSA's Division of Mental Health and Addiction (DMHA), the National Alliance for Mentally Ill (NAMI), and the Suicide Prevention Coalition of Indiana.

Over three hundred representatives from Indiana's state operated prison and juvenile detention facilities, county sheriff's offices across the State, other correctional officials, and representatives from the Indiana Association of Counties attended and participated in the

interactive Summit, designed to share information towards reducing the incidents of suicide in correctional and treatment environments.

In addition to this summit, the Department has taken other action to reduce the occurrences of suicide within prisons including enhancing training to insure that staff is aware of how to detect and respond to warning signs. Additionally, annual staff training will have an added focus on suicide prevention.

Speaker presentations and other information are available at [www.in.gov.indcorrection](http://www.in.gov.indcorrection). ■



## What's Going On at PEN Products?



### Cabin Production begins at Pendleton Correctional Facility

PEN Products is manufacturing mini log cabins for the Pinebrook Landscaping Company. Pinebrook was awarded a purchase order from DNR for 20 cabins. The cabins are going to be placed at two DNR locations as a test this summer as rentals for campers. Twelve offenders at the Pendleton Correctional Facility are building the cabins.



### Rockville Correctional Facility Adds More Jobs

PEN Products at Rockville has increased offender jobs as it adds more sewn items to its product line. Mattresses, mattresses covers, and female pants are in the current line. In the next few months they will add female offender shirts and all offender coats. Additionally, the PEN Products Rockville operation is experimenting with some items that can be sold on Commissary.

### Embroidery Production Starts at Miami Correctional Facility



The embroidery equipment is now in place at the Miami Correctional Facility. PEN presented all the Superintendents with a golf towel with the DOC seal embroidered on it as samples of the shop's work. A sell sheet is being prepared to promote golf shirts with the DOC logo embroidered on them. Each facility will receive these sell sheets and ordering can start immediately. The shirts are available in 12 colors and 7 sizes and can be sold to facilities, as well as individuals.

### PEN Products Central Office Supports Family



During the holiday season, PEN Products central office shopped for a family of five to provide clothing items and groceries to make sure that their holiday was filled with joy. All central office employees either donated, shopped, wrapped, or made the delivery to the adopted family. ■

## National Crime Victims' Rights Week

National Crime Victims' Rights Week is April 23-29, 2006. National Crime Victims' Rights Week is a time to remember, reflect, and re-commit to crime victims and survivors, and those who serve them. It is also a time to raise individual, victim, and public awareness about victims' rights and needs, and the challenges victims face in seeking help and restoration in the aftermath of crime, and the positive impact that individuals and communities can have in the lives of victims and survivors by providing services and support.

In recognition of National Victims' Rights Week, the Indiana Department of Correction will support the Legacy House R.O.C.C.-A-THON fundraiser to help support their efforts in "Reaching Out to Citizens affected by Crime." The R.O.C.C.-A-THON will be April 29, 2006, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at the Christamore House in Indianapolis. To rock, sponsor a rocker, or make a donation, please contact Donnett Dempsey at Victim/Witness Service, (317) 234-1532. ■



**PEN Products  
Now online!**

[www.penproducts.com](http://www.penproducts.com)

## DOC and Habitat for Humanity Partnering for a Good Cause



**Habitat  
for Humanity®**  
of Greater Indianapolis

**I**DOC employees will be volunteering to assist in the building of a Habitat for Humanity house for a deserving family, May 5 through May 12. The response was so overwhelming that the IDOC will occupy two days of the build. Ninety-five

IDOC employees will volunteer. In addition to staff volunteers, offenders will be involved by producing items for the landscaping and in the interior cabinetry for the kitchen and bathroom. ■

## Rockville Facility Gets INShape

**I**n response to healthy lifestyle changes, the recreation department at the Rockville Correctional Facility (RCF) was asked to develop a program that would benefit the staff members at RCF. The program was developed in order to allow staff members to achieve one of two goals. The first goal is for staff members to use the staff workout room at least three days a week for a half an hour each day. The second goal is for staff members to achieve weight goals that are to be met at ten weeks, thirty-weeks and fifty-weeks. For achieving the ten-week goal, staff members are awarded a six-pack soft cooler. The thirty-week goal was rewarded with a T-shirt. Finally, staff members are rewarded with a pullover windbreaker for achieving the fifty-week goal. If overweight individuals do not make their goal but still use the staff workout room the recommended time, these individuals will still be rewarded on the basis of the first goal. Attempting to increase ones healthy lifestyle is as important as achieving a healthy lifestyle. ■

## Dog Days

**ICAAAN**

**W**hen you combine nine dogs, offenders from the Indiana Women's Prison, and two years of work, you get animals which can open doors, turn lights on and off, get the laundry, and even answer the phone. Indiana Women's Prison offender/handlers have worked with 15 pups in training since receiving their first pups in August of 2002. IWP serves as the "hub" of training for community volunteers who furlough the pups and team training where recipients learn to work with their new assistance dogs. Graduation day for the nine dogs was March 16, 2006, where they left the facility with their new companions for life. ■



## Henryville Correctional Facility and Habitat for Humanity

**H**enryville Correctional Facility has partnered with Jefferson County Habitat for Humanity to complete a home located in Madison, Indiana. Six IDOC supervised offenders joined with HFH on Wednesday, January 25, 2006 and to date have provided a total of 396 hours to the project. Ben Newell, Director of the Jefferson County Chapter of HFH e-mailed after the first contact, "The crew you sent yesterday was great. Not only did they know what they were doing, but they worked hard. They did such a good job we would love to have them finish the job." The Correctional Officer supervising this crew has been told the project once struggling to meet the set timetable is now ahead of schedule. Henryville Correctional Facility staff and offenders are eager to hear the progress and share in the experience.

Another home is scheduled and Henryville Correctional Facility will continue to be a positive resource in this community. ■

## Mum Sale was a Success



**W**estville Correctional Facility was successful in their sale of Mums. They have donated \$823.50 to the Villages Backpack project. ■

## Pendleton Correctional Facility "Wheels for the World" Program

**T**he Pendleton Correctional Facility has implemented a "Wheels for the World" program in conjunction with the organization operated by "Joni and Friends". Joni Eareckson Tada (a quadriplegic as the result of a 1967 diving accident) is the founder and CEO of this organization that collects wheelchairs from across the country and transports them to correctional facilities for restoration. According to the Organization's website, Wheels for the World has distributed over 25,000 wheelchairs to over 60 countries. ■

## Screaming Eagles Donation to PREF



**T**he facility is proud to announce that it received its first monetary donation toward the new facility mission from the Screaming Eagles organization. The Club's annual Christmas fund donation of \$1500.00 was presented to Superintendent Correll on the behalf of the club membership by Dick Dietz, Bob Groves, Doug Fish, and Gary Hutcheson. The club has the honor of making the first donation to the new Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility. ■

## Recognition Ceremony held at Rockville Correctional Facility

**T**he Education Department of the Rockville Correctional Facility held a Recognition Ceremony for 90 vocational education offenders of which 70 are still within the facility. The ceremony was held on February 24, 2006, in the Chapel.

The ceremony included Commissioner Donahue as guest speaker. "Education is an excellent tool for increasing the chances of success in the real world and I am excited to see the commitment and hard work of offenders at Rockville. With the help of dedicated staff, we are able to foster positive changes in our environment," said J. David Donahue.

Within the course study, each offender was introduced to a state program from the Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD), which gives the offender additional transferable skills with a Certificate of Technical Achievement (CTA). Each offender has

met all the criteria described within a work scenario. The criteria was in the form of skills, such as changing an electrical outlet, making concrete forms, learning computer programs, creating special meals, and/or laying out special gardens. The offender must meet 100% of the technical and academic requirements before a CTA is issued by the DWD. This certificate is signed by Governor Mitchell Daniels and is given along with a statement of the various CTA's completed. CTA's are also available throughout Indiana in high schools, trade schools, vocational schools and businesses.

Offenders earning CTA's will be better equipped to find employment and will have skills that can be utilized in any number of occupations. Education is one aspect of an offender's successful re-entry into the community. ■

## **Correctional Employees Week**

**May 8 - 13, 2006**

**Paying tribute to the  
men and women  
who staff the Federal,  
State, and County  
correctional facilities  
across the country.**



## Correctional Accreditation Managers' Association Conference



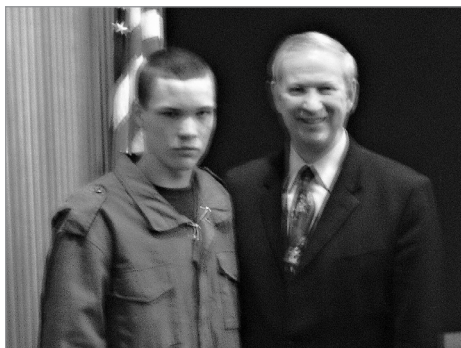
### REGISTRATION \$125.00

May 12 Friday  
ACA Spring Panel Hearings/  
Registration  
May 13 Saturday  
ACA Spring Panel Hearings/  
Registration  
CAMA Welcome Reception  
May 14 Sunday  
Registration/full CAMA program  
May 15 Monday  
Registration/full CAMA program  
May 16 Tuesday Workshops/  
Closing session 10:15 – noon

**Make your plans now!**  
**May 12-16, 2006**  
**Indianapolis, Indiana**

**Indianapolis Marriott Downtown**  
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Phone 317/822-3500 • FAX 317/951-0300  
Room Rate \$110.00 per room

## Black History Month Essay Contest Winner



Camp Summit's Travis Kent was honored this month by Mayor Oberlie of Michigan City for being the top overall winner for the Michigan City Area Schools for the Black History Month Essay Contest. There were 300 entrants and Travis received first place overall. Congratulations to Travis, for this great accomplishment. ■

## Miami Correctional Facility Hosts Straight Talk Program to Local Middle School

Miami Correctional Facility welcomed 128 young visitors to its facility for its popular Straight Talk Program. The facility has hosted several youth through the past 5 years to talk to offenders about drug and alcohol abuse, peer pressure and parental respect. The program is both an educational and motivational program as well as a deterrent for the negative behaviors that could lead today's youth to tomorrow's prisons. Offenders in the program are interviewed and screened for their communication skills and their desire to make a difference in a young person's life. The most recent visit to the facility from Delphi Middle School was the most students MCF has hosted since the program began. Since the students are too young to go on a tour of the facility, they get to see a brief video showing them the inside of a cell house, giving



them a look inside the offender's living quarters. After the offenders spoke, a panel of staff talked to each set of students about what it's like to work in a prison. Students were allowed to ask questions of both panels. ■